THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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MOFUSSIL 13-4

THE WEEK.

Monday, 14th July.

AN interesting little story is told by the *Manchester Guardian*, which throws a certain amount of light upon Mr. Gladstone's methods of work. The Right Hon. gentleman usually speaks from notes, but these are often of the briefest possible description. On Thursday before the last Mail left, the notes for his speech on the Channel Tunnel, consisted of three words which were "Champagne, Ilissus, Eurotas."

IT is proposed to establish an aerial Electric Railway for postal purposes between Buenos Ayres and Monte Video. The mails will be placed in a small cigar-shaped vehicle, which will run on two strong cables, supported by poles. The electric current, necessary to move the vehicle, will be produced at stations along the line.

THE *Echo* says :—'We are not altogether surprised to hear that Lord Wolseley has declined the offer of Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army. The post is one of the most tempting of the kind in existence, and specially to an active man ; for the Indian Command-in-Chief is not, like the Duke of Cambridge's appointment, an ornamental affair and sinecure. For years past the post has been growing more and more in importance. Sir Frederick Haines, who has just been made a Marshal, was rather an ornamental Commander-in-Chief in India. But his successors have not been figure-heads. Sir Donald Stewart took both himself and his work seriously ; while the present Commander-in-Chief, Sir Frederick Roberts, takes both very seriously indeed.

'THE Indian Commander-in-Chief's main interest, for some time past, has been concentrated on the frontier defences. Having brought them into their present high state of efficiency, Sir Frederick Roberts would like to return home. Simla, with all its glories, is a place of exile ; and that Lord Wolseley probably feels it would be for him. Besides, if unfortunately there should be serious work in store somewhere for the 'home' army, Lord Wolseley ought to be on the spot. In a very short time he will be resigning his present office in the Army—that of the Adjutant Generalship. There is no disguising the fact that for him to accept the Indian post would be to be shelved. Lord Wolseley served his apprenticeship to the science and art of war in India. His exploits, as lieutenant, at the siege of Lucknow, are matter of history.'

THE *Citizen* says :—' There can be no question that other things being equal countries under the direct control of the British Government are generally considered to afford a substantially more secure field for investment than any foreign countries, and even in some degree than British colonies. Under these circumstances, the fact that India has, considering its extent and opportunities, been so little developed by private enterprise, is greatly to be regretted. We wish now to bring before our readers a field for investment in India which is much more likely to be profitable, which is even more beneficial in its results to the country, and in which the aid of private enterprise would be accepted by the Government with equal pleasure. We refer to irrigation. There are very large Districts in India, where the soil is the richest but the rainfall so scanty that nothing can be grown. Some of these Districts are within easy reach of big rivers from which irrigation would be quite easy. The Punjab offers many such Districts with equal facilities for irrigation, most rainless, with excellent soil, and within reach of large populations only too anxious to take up the land. If the right men were found to do the work no safer investment of its class could, we believe, be anywhere discovered.' We have great doubts about the benefits of irrigation. The belief is general that canal-water instead of doing any good does considerable harm to the soil.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN'S Administration Reform, scheme for the North-Western Provinces will form the subject of legislation in the Viceroy's Council. Mr. Robert Crosthwaite will be sent to Simla, in charge of the measure, which will be passed during the present session.

Tuesday, 15th July.

PERSIAN merchants, who have arrived in India, state that German and French railway speculators have offered the Shah, if they are allowed 40 years to recoup themselves, to construct railway lines at their own expense between Mahamira near Bansrah, at the head of the Persian Gulf, to Teheran. The Shah is willing to give the concession for 10 years only ; but the matter is under discussion.

THE *Pioneer* makes the following apology, like the *Times of India*, to Mr. Bradlaugh :—' In May last, we extracted a paragraph from the *Times of India* in which it was asserted that Mr. Bradlaugh, when delivering a lecture in Scotland, had "challenged the Almighty to strike him dead within a minute." In doing this, we of course, trusted to the reliability of our contemporary, and when last week he withdrew the objectionable statement, we immediately reproduced the explanation and apology, tendered in connection therewith. We are now to add the expression of our sincere regret that currency should have been given, through our columns, to a story, which could only have been invented by some malicious person with a view to damage very seriously Mr. Bradlaugh's reputation and character.'

THE District reports on the state of agriculture indicate that the prospects of standing crops in Bengal are, on the whole, very good. With the advance of the rainy season, some of the rivers in the Gangetic Delta of Bengal have risen doing considerable damage to the standing crops. In the Presidency Circle, it is reported from Murshidabad that "a little damage" has been done by the overflow of the river, which "is very high for this time," and from the District of Nuddea, the report comes that *aus* and jute crops on *chur* lands in the Sub-Division of Kustea have been submerged. And similar disasters are reported from Narail, and Kurigram and Furridpore. The number of famine-stricken people, now at work on relief works at Puri, is 67. Prices of rice, obtaining in the different Districts, vary according to local circumstances. For instance, in the great rice-mart of Backergunge, while common rice is sold at 13 seers per rupee, the same is to be had at Singbhum at 24 seers per rupee.

THE *Pioneer* says:—A correspondent draws attention to the fact that Sir Auckland Colvin's reference, in his recent Minute on Police Reorganisation, to the Deputy Magistracy was so guarded as not to justify our conclusion that a large body of responsible Officers has fallen under the stigma of the head of the Provincial Executive. The Lieutenant-Governor alluded only to the "asserted" unwillingness of Native Magistrates to deal boldly with criminal cases, and did not express his own opinion on the particular point. He has doubtless reserved judgment upon it, and meanwhile, it would be interesting to learn how far the Executive Officers of Government hold the view that there is this unwillingness among Deputy Magistrates. The subject is really one of the highest importance, for as we recently pointed out, the greater part of the criminal work of the Province is now in the hands of these officers.' The 'unwillingness of Native Deputy Magistrates' referred to above, will be found on enquiry to be totally unfounded. We wish Sir Auckland Colvin had expressed his opinion on the matter.

ACCORDING to the *Civil and Military Gazette* the latest news from Turkistan is that the Amir has left Balkh for a final tour on the frontier Hazrat Imam ; thence he goes by Khunduz to Talikhan, and from thence takes the route to Kabul. The Amir's son, Shahazada Habibulla Jan, has laid out supplies for his father's escort and following at each of the staging places between Kabul and Bamian. The Amir leaves his uncle, Sirdar Mahammad Usaf Khan, as Governor of Turkistan. This, however, is only a temporary arrangement.

THE appeal of the Sikhs to the Sikh Chiefs of the Punjab for subscriptions in aid of the Khalsa College movement, is now under consideration in Puttialla, Nabha and other States, and on the generosity of their response largely depends the success of this national Sikh movement.

Wednesday, 16th July.

THERE is a Hindu fakir, Baba Hari Dass, at Kalla near Jhelum, who, says the Lahore paper, is said by his admirers to have eaten next to nothing for the last twenty years. He is said to live on some herbage of which he takes a very small quantity daily. The fakir, we hear, is busily engaged in excavating a large tank half a mile in circumference, close to Kalla, by raising subscriptions from those who go to visit him. The Maharaja of Kashmir gave him a handsome donation for the purpose, and so did the Jhelum District Board. The tank is annually fed by a hill stream, and the fakir works with his own hand at the tank daily, in spite of his being very old.

PRINCE BISMARCK received on June 22nd a deputation representing 30,000 citizens of Berlin who had signed an address to the ex-Chancellor. In replying, the Prince, referring to his departure from Berlin, said :—' The reasons for leaving Berlin do not lie with me nor in that quarter either where so many are inclined to look for them. They are simply to be found in the conflicting views of my colleagues in the Government. It is only the unity of a Government that makes it strong. I was no longer at one with my colleagues, and, therefore, the necessary spirit of unity did not exist among us. At that time I had all the responsibility myself, and, therefore, could not stay ; but now I have no responsibility, and so I can freely have my say. I feel pretty much like Prince Metternich, with whom I would otherwise not like to compare myself nor seek to imitate him. He said, however, that he had descended from the stage to the pit, and that is just the position I am now also in. There are many people who will not grant me this, but every one who has brought a ticket for a pit seat is surely entitled to criticise. Only he must exercise his right decently, and not with a shrill whistle.

THE Prince went on to say that he felt it to be his duty to express his opinion to the many who wish to hear it both at home and abroad, and not to hold his peace. 'An old proverb has it that when God places any one in office, he also gives understanding to the holder thereof; but people would now like to reverse the order of this saying, and declare that when God deprives any one of office He also deprives him of his intellect. Let me tell you, however, that I am just exactly the same man I was three months ago, and lay claim to the same amount of intelligence as I then possessed. Nor will I yield to dictation, though I should have to stand alone. It is the duty of a man like me to be free with his opinion, even in the highest quarters, and these are just the very quarters where such a duty becomes imperative. A good minister ought not to regard the frowns of the monarch whom he serves, but out with his opinion to him, frank and free. In the event of an adverse decision, he may then choose whether he will yield or go. But, though no longer in office, I have still retained the right of every citizen to give free expression to his opinion. I connot demean myself like a dumb dog ; and I have done nothing beyond supporting the peace policy of my successor, which it was ever my aim to promote and keep in view. Everything I say and do is in the interest of the dynasty and of peace. I will not indulge in the criticism of anything—not of the stipulations of the Anglo-German agreement. People may get angry with me, but I have always been accustomed to act in accordance with my convictions. I cannot simply blot out forty years of my life. Were it otherwise, I should have quietly devoted myself to my oats and potatoes, but to expect of me at this time of day that I should all at once turn farmer and nothing more—is it possible? I must be taken as I am."

WHEN the German Emperor visited the Queen last year, great inconvenience was experienced on account of the want of a State banqueting-hall at Osborne House. Her Majesty has now determined to build one of magnificent proportions. The operations now being commenced will not interfere with the usual visit of the Queen to the Isle of Wight at the latter end of July.

Thursday, 17th July.

ANENT the recent Jain dispute Mr. Gulal Chand thus writes to a contemporary:—"I am aware that the dispute that has arisen among the Jains will shortly be before the High Court, and, therefore, must respect the fact that the question at issue is *sub judice*. But I may say that on the return of the two young men from England in October last, the *panchayet* held at Murshidabad was willing to re-admit the travellers to caste on their making solemn affirmation that they had not taken anything prohibited by the Jain religion. As regards making a long sea-voyage on board the ship and touching European shores, the members of the local Jain society were, with only a few exceptions, unanimously of opinion that this did not amount to a breach of caste, being neither contrary to the Sastras, nor to prevailing custom. The decision arrived at by the Murshidabad leaders was, therefore, quite favourable; but the Jains of Calcutta considering themselves quite entitled to differ from the above *panchayet*, on the strength of a mysterious telegram from Bombay, took up an antagonistic position. They held to the Hindu idea of one's losing caste by merely undertaking a sea voyage, and caused a pamphlet to be published declaring that the young men were outcasted and that all others would be so who did likewise. Now it will have to be determined whether the authority of the Shastras can be quoted against travelling by steamer. * * * But what I should like to say is that the importance of the question lies in the fact that it touches our personal liberty. We shall now see it settled definitely, and for all time, whether we are to be utterly cut off from the privilege of visiting Europe, and are to be placed on a lower level than any other race in India." What can a reference to the High Court do in such a matter? The leaders of society ought to determine the question raised.

THE Tinedah Menguee, the fierce old Minister whose counsels are said to have dragged Theebaw to his ruin, has been informed that he cannot be allowed to proceed to Calcutta; but that if he chooses any other Indian station, the Government will be prepared to consider the proposal. The Tinedah intends asking that he may be allowed to reside at Colombo, where he would have the advantages of being able to attend Buddhist temples and listening to Buddhist priests. In view of the pacification of the province, and the fact that the ex-Minister is now getting an old man, it is probable the Government may accede to his request and allow him to spend the rest of his days in Ceylon amongst his co-religionists, if not fellow-countrymen. Hazaribag, where the Tinedah now resides, is said to be greatly disliked by him on account of its never being visited by any Burmese and being too cold and damp.

THE Archæological Survey in the Punjab have deciphered an ancient inscription, just a thousand years old, which was found incised on a stone slab partly fixed in the wall of a house and used as a seat, in the bazar at Pahoa or Pihewa, in the Umballa district. Considerable difficulty was experienced in inducing the owner of the house to allow the stone to be removed, but the treasure was eventually acquired, and now lies in the Lahore Museum. The inscription consists of twenty-one stanzas of Sanskrit verse, and is an account of the building and endowment of a temple of Vishnu, together with a eulogy of the family who performed the meritorious deed. Regarding one of the brothers it is said that "when suppliants with rapture looked on his lotus face their mental anxiety completely vanished in an instant; and the crowd of hostile trumpeting elephants always shook before him in battle, ready to disperse."

THE *Novæ Vremya* calls attention to an enterprise which will work, it says, the first systematic attempt to promote commercial relations between Russia and Afghanistan. Although there is already an active demand on the Afghan frontier for Russian goods, there is no recognised depot for the sale of such wares. The Russian merchants M. M. Barikof and Loguinof, are now preparing to start a trading depot at Takht Bazar, the administrative centre of the Punjdeh District. The prospects of this new venture are said to be most favourable. Last year a Russian caravan with 200,000 roubles, worth of merchandise was sent into Northern Afghanistan and was sold out in less than three months.

THE Council of the Brimingham Chamber of Commerce, at their meeting on the 8th June, passed the following Resolution on the Subject of the recent memorial against the levy in India of Income-tax on consignments:—'That a Memorial be forwarded to the Viceroy of India, supporting the Memorial of the Bengal Chamber.'

Friday, 18th July.

THE growth of London is said to be particularly noticeable in the spring and early summer months. This, in fact, has been a feature of its development which has been observed for several years past. The returns as to the number of houses occupied in the Metropolitan area during April and May, show an extraordinary increase as compared with the same months in 1889 In April of 1889 there were supplied with water—and this is the best test which the Registrar General has at his command—740, 655 houses; in April of this year the number of houses was 761,186, there being an increase of no less than 11,531. In May of last year the number of houses was 750,954; in May of this year it was 762,057, there being an increase of 11,103. Some of the northern districts are adding to their population very rapidly.

LIEUTENANT R. M. Rainey, the Commandant of the Chin Frontier Force, has written some very graphic and interesting notes regarding the manners and customs of the Chin tribes who dwell on the borders of the Yaw country in the Pakkoku district. Among the Chinboks, Chinbons, and Yindus, government, in the sense of an authority definitely recognised by law, is unknown, for there are no laws to give authority, and the headman of each village is merely the best man in it, that is, the man who has established a great repute as a hunter or raider or who possesses a knowledge of Burmese likely to be useful to the villagers in commerce or in war. The religion in vogue is a species of spirit worship, the spirits being consulted and propitiated by the sacrifice of animals and their disposition ascertained by the direction in which the blood flows and other similar signs. The tribesmen attach great importance to these omens, and raids are frequently abandoned at the last moment when they are unfavourable. There are no priests; but when a Chin wants to get out of a predicament in which he has been placed by an unfavourable omen, as for instance, when he has set his affections on a particular maiden of the tribe and desire to marry her, he simply keeps on sacrificing. The *nats* are sure to become favourable if they are only consulted frequently enough. This is the Chin's method of squaring the gods: it may be paralleled by the practice of more advanced people.

THE dress of the Chin consists, besides an infinitesimal *langoti*, of a cloth hung behind from the shoulders. It is remarked that in the presence of strangers the women are constrained either to stand or kneel. Both sexes, but especially the males, greatly affect rude ornaments. Marriage among the Chinboks is a love affair, the consent of the girl being indispensable. There are, moreover, no divorces, for when, as not infrequently happens, one man runs off with another's wife he is either killed or kills. This saves much trouble. Among their virtues, and they seem to be courageous and fairly industrious after their rude fashion, the Chins do not include that of sobriety. "The most remarkable custom of these people," says Mr. Rainey, "is their habit of getting drunk on every possible occasion. Every and any incident is an excuse to bring out the beer jars—the arrival of a stranger or visitor, the birth of a child, a marriage, a death, a case of sickness, an offering to or consultation of *nats* are all sufficient excuses for every one present—men, women, and even tiny children—to get drunk. They frequently keep up these debauches for days." The Chin never washes his body or his clothes, and very seldom his face or his hands. Their agriculture is all done by the hand, but they nevertheless manage to cultivate a great variety of crops and like all primitive tribes they gather great stores of food from the river and the forest. It is curious also to read of wonderful bamboo bridges constructed on the cantilever principle, and of primitive acqueducts carrying water sometimes as far as half a mile.

IN consequence of the report of the Court of Enquiry regarding the conduct of some of the men of the Second Grenadiers in refusing to obey orders, a District Court-Martial has been ordered to try certain of the offenders.

THE B. I. S. N. Co's. steamer *Pelitana* which arrived on Tuesday from Rangoon reports having passed a waterspoot on the 8th instant, about forty miles south of the Rangoon Pilot vessel. When first seen it was some distance away on the port side, but it advanced rapidly towards the vessel, necessitating a prompt alteration being made in her course to avoid being struck by the vast pillars of water. As it was, it passed so close astern that the noise made by the water rushing up the revolving column was distinctly audible.

THE Lucknow Municipality has decided to make a second attempt at artesian well-sinking.

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Saturday, 19th July.

THE statement that satisfactory explanations had been exchanged between the British and French Governments regarding Zanzibar is repeated more circumstantially in the *Temps*, which states that the matter was discussed first of all at an interview between M. Waddington, the French Ambassador in London, and Lord Salisbury, and between Lord Lytton, and M. Ribot, Minister for Foreign Affairs. The same journal adds that the British Foreign Office will shortly address a note to the French Government on the subject.

THE future employment of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught is still a matter of some doubt at present; some being of opinion that he will succeed Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar at Dublin; while others think he will be the first holder of the new appointment of Commander of the Forces in England, the creation of which was recommended by the recent Royal Commission.

THE Government Engineers are erecting a new embankment just behind that part of the Laltakuri bund, which is in danger, and whose bursting last year caused such disaster to Murshedabad. The portion of the Rampal bund, which gave way, is also repaired. There is no apprehension of last year's terrible disaster, although the floods on a small scale have already visited the Kandi Sub-Division by an overflow of the Maurikhi, causing much loss in crops and cattle, and temporary distress.

THE North-West Provinces Police Committee are communicating with the District Officers in order to obtain a list of witnesses to be examined on the subject of Police re-organisation. Mr. F. W. Porter, Secretary of the Committee, will be glad to receive the names of non-officials anxious to give evidence. Some of the members will tour through the Provinces, and cross-examine on the evidence tendered.

THE Delhi-Kalka Railway will be opened for traffic on or about the 1st October.

SIR HENRY HARRISON of the Board of Revenue has arrived at Bankipore for the Opium Manual Commission, which is to sit shortly for revising the rules for the guidance of the department. Mr. Halliday, also of the Board, visited Bankipore.

On dit that the Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers in England has presented to the Secretary of State for India a full expression of its views on the subject of the grievances of the Civil Engineers in this country.

THE *Lancet* contains a selection of tracings obtained by the Hyderabad Chloroform Commission. In view of conveying information to a great number of medical scientists copies of the *Lancet*, by order of the Nizam of Hyderabad, will be forwarded to every university, medical college and school and al hospitals in the world, as well as to the heads of various departments, and the Army and Navy Medica Staff in all quarters of the globe. Copies will be suplied also to the presidents of all medical societies ancto all medical journa's.

WITH reference to the proposed reduction of postage etween England and India, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking in the House of Commons on Friay, said that an important point had been raised by the Government of India. This important point which is now before Government, is the division of charge between the Inland Revenues of England and India, the charge including both the Continent train and the ocean steamer. The recent telegrams which passed between His Excellency the Viceroy an Mr. Cecil Raikes, the Post Master General in Lonon, may be taken as an official intimation that the postage reduction will be introduced as soon as possible.

THE Government of India has decided to discontinue the annual grant hitherto devoted to the search for and purchase of rare Sanskrit MSS., but the decision will not take effect until 1892. A regular staff of native searchers have been employed during the past ten years, and these have visited most of the large temples throughout India, examining and cataloguing the vast collections of works hoarded up in those fanes. The private libraries of many native gentlemen have been likewise carefully sifted and their contents recorded. Out of the MSS thus examined no fewer than 2,400 have been purchased by the Government, and rendered accessible to the public at Bombay and Calcutta. The most valuable "finds" have included numerous old Jain MSS., now being submitted to the scrutiny of competent scholars in Bombay. Although the search and purchase grants are to cease, the India Government has agreed to continue the allowance of Rs. 9,000 per annum for publication of texts and translations of Sanskrit and Persian works discovered

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)
(SESSION 1890-91.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday* the 22*nd Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.
Subject: Temperature and its Measurement. Various kinds of Thermometers.

LECTURE by Babu Asutosh Mukerjee, M. A., on *Thursday*, the *24th Inst.*, at 4½ P. M.
Subject: Mathematical Physics.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E on *Thursday*, the *24th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M,
Subject: Laws of Propagation and Intensity of Light—Photometry.

LECTURE by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M. A., on *Friday*, the *25th Inst.*, at 4½ P. M.
Subject: Dynamics of a Particle. Kinematics.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S. on *Saturday*, the *26th Inst*, at 4 P.M.
Subject: Chemical Nomenclature and Hydrogen.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
July 19th, 1890. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, JULY 21, 1890.

THE DURGA PUJA HOLIDAYS.

TIME was when officers of State looked upon the non-official classes with jealousy and suspicion, and treated them as interlopers, liable to be deported from the country if they failed to fall in with the views of the authorities. Time was when the successors in position and influence of those of our countrymen who had assisted in laying the foundations of British rule in Bengal, were looked upon with respect, and their advice sought in carrying on the administration in a way consonant with the feelings, usages and customs of the children of the soil. But things have vastly changed. In times long since past, with a six months' passage to England, *via* the Cape, British officials spent the best portion of their lives in the midst of those who were placed under them, and whose modes of thought and ways of life they had ample time to study. The facilities of the Overland passage in comparatively recent times, the run by rail, and that by steamer across the Isthmus in the present day, the influx of Europeans in the Uncovenanted services, of European merchants, traders and planters have more and more helped to make our British officials live, we may say, altogether in English society, and almost ignorant and unmindful of the feelings and sentiments of the native population amongst whom they may be temporarily placed. The Mutiny set rulers against the ruled, and the unfortunate discussions on the Ilbert Bill made the breach wider. On the other hand, the mercantile and trading interests are becoming more and more powerful every day, and the Government less and less able to oppose them. Sir Henry Harrison thought that the mercantile and trading community of Calcutta were being heavily taxed, while the benefits of such taxation were mostly enjoyed by residential owners of houses, and in the performance of a "*sacred duty*", put an extra pressure on the latter, and the Government, though ostensibly laying stress on the weight and influence of the signatories to the memorial on the subject, did not deign even to enquire, whether actual mischief was being caused. This showed clearly the amount of sympathy it had for the people, who are to permanently bear the increased burdens of municipal taxation. The latest manifestation of this principle, a desire to serve the powerful interests of the mercantile and trading community, and scant consideration for the feelings and sentiments of the people of the soil, is to be found in the late Orders of Government on the subject of the Durga Puja Holidays. It is the same story here as in England. There, Manchester must be kept in good humour, and the Import duties on cotton goods are abolished to the great injury of the Indian people. Here, the mercantile and trading interests suffer to some inappreciable extent from the observance of holidays sanctioned by tradition and usage, and a sop must be thrown to them and the national sentiment outraged.

It has never been contended that the twelve days holidays are employed in actual religious worship. It needed no Mahamahopadhya—facetiously called, in one of the papers published amongst the correspondence, an interested political pundit,—to tell us that. His bare opinion,—we cannot call it a *Vyavastha* based upon sacred texts, which alone it was his province to give—is quite irrelevant as regards the matter in issue. Whatever the actual days of worship may be, it is certain that high festival is held continuously for five days, and there must be days of preparation and days of parting with kith and kin, before things can return to their normal condition. A European officer, Lieutenant E. W. Petley R. N., Port Officer and Shipping Master, Calcutta—be it said to his infinite credit, for it shews an amount of large-heartedness, and sympathy towards his subordinates not often to be met with in these days—thus describes the holidays. He says that Hindus "usually take this opportunity of visiting their country homes during the Durga Puja Vacation. These homes I understand are mostly ancestral properties, where the social system of the Hindus, being of a patriarchal type, all the relatives close and distant, of the holders of these properties meet from the different parts of India, and this deprivation of intercourse between relatives is the hardship which will be felt, and which concession in the way of leave &c. at other times, when families are again separated, will hardly satisfy." The Durga Puja Holidays were never allowed because they were all devoted to worship; they were meant to serve as a vacation during which the majority of the employes of Government, and others similarly circumstanced, might not only worship their gods, but have social gatherings, and family re-unions as well. Christmas celebrations begin on Christmas Eve and end on Christmas day. Still the holidays begin the day preceding Christmas and end after the two following days. Here we have four days' cessation of business for one day's ceremonial, and no body complains. The ceremonial begins, it is true, the previous evening, but if our Mahamahopadhya had been consulted, he would have recommended one day's holiday as in the case of the Kali Puja.

In 1879 the subject of the curtailment of the holidays was discussed by a committee appointed by the Bengal Government. Mr. Dampier, the Hon'ble Raja Durga Churn Law, and the late Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur steadily opposed the movement, and the Government, as a "balance of convenience" recommended "that there should be no alteration in the holidays." The Government of India, however, negatived the proposal and it was "directed that effect should be given to the proposals of the majority of the committee," *viz* "that all public offices shall be kept open on all but the four days of religious observance." On the return of the Government of India to Calcutta in 1880, however, one of our most gifted noblemen, who has received repeated marks of Royal and Vice-regal favor, strongly represented the matter to the Viceroy in person. Every consideration was then shown to high and disinterested native opinion on the subject; it was not merely *shown*, as we have had instances of late, but *acted upon*. The Governor-General in Council had "reason to doubt whether the Government of India allowed sufficient weight to the inconvenience which will be entailed" by the decision previously arrived at, "and to the strength of the popular attachment to these annual holidays." "On the other hand His Excellency" was "disposed to think that he may have under-rated the extent to which the complaints of the mercantile community may be obviated or at least mitigated by careful arrangements in the several public offices to meet their requirements." And it was ordered "that the observance of the Durga Puja holidays in the public offices in Calcutta shall continue as heretofore. Here was the Charter of the Holidays renewed after twenty years of opposition in the mercantile and trading interests, and it is not quite ten years, and the document is torn and scattered to the four winds, of heaven under sympathies which are becoming less and less pronounced towards the people of the soil, and under influences which are becoming more and more powerful.

The inconvenience complained of by the Chamber of Commerce was, *firstly*, that public business was to a large extent paralysed during the holidays by the closing of the Exchange Banks which will not undertake the responsibility of transacting business during days upon which negotiable instruments will not mature; and *secondly*, that the trade of the port is materially affected by the closure of the Shiping Office and the inability to obtain port clearances." Looking to what we have called the Charter of 1880, the British Indian Association observed as follows;—"In considering the question of Banking and Shipping offices we should not think proper to alter or affect the general law. Special conveniences may be secured for particular sections of the community, and that most readily by departmental orders, and not by changing the law. It is undeniable that a general denial of leave on particular holidays would be more desirable to some persons than departmental orders, but in a mixed community, our marchants should be satisfied with the principle of mutual toleration and not insist upon their dues at the sacrifice of those who do not belong to their profession. With the Currency Office in a position to encash Council drafts during some of the holidays, the Exchange Banks will, it is supposed, find it safe to work; and with the Shipping office similarly open at stated intervals along with the Customs House, there could be no impediment to port entries and port clearances being effected. Inconveniences now felt are likely to be removed to a great extent if these measures are adopted, while, holidays are kept intact." But our merchants will not be satisfied with the principle of mutual toleration, but must have their pound of flesh, and the Government turns round and says that the view the the Association appear to hold does not in any way meet the difficulty, of which the commercial community complain. "The opening or closing of a particular public office does not so much impede the transaction of the public business, as the declaration that for twelve days in succession exchange bills receivable cannot be legally collected, and promissory notes payable cannot be legally paid." It thus appears that this last is the only real complaint, and that about trade being materially affected by the closing of the Shipping office, a mere imaginary evil. All negotiable instruments maturing within the holidays are payable under the law before the holidays begin, and if arrangements are made in time all inconvenience may be avoided. The fact is as the Exchange Banks say in their letter to Government that "especially owing to keen competition in trade generally, it has become a necessity with some merchants in this port to curtail holidays as much as possible. The Exchange Banks do not feel the inconvenience to the same extent as others, and would be glad to retain the holidays intact for the benefit both of their European and native employes." The Exchange Banks state that on any day which is a holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act they cannot legally collect bills receivable nor pay bills payable, and that such conditions throw more responsibility on them than they deem it desirable to undertake. Nevertheless they have for some years recognised that a section of the mercantile community have some claim upon their assistance at the season of the Durga Puja holidays, and have accordingly opened on a certain number of days during those holidays for the transaction of urgent business. Thus the only inconvenience really felt, is a want of monetary assistance by a *section* of the mercantile community. And this inconvenience, such as it is, has been minimised to a great extent, by the Bank of Bengal and even the Exchange Banks opening on certain days. The Exchange Banks expressed a "doubt whether a majority of the (mercantile) community was in favor of fewer holidays." They added "that it has not been effectively demonstrated by vote or otherwise whether reduction of holidays finds favor or disfavour among the majority at the present time." The Government wanted to ascertain from the Chamber of Commerce the relative numbers of supporters of either view among the members of the

Chamber. The Chamber, however, saw no reason to comply with the call for information and declined to take any action in the matter. It was probably thought that such a reply might ruffle the temper of the sweetest dispositioned Government, and it was followed up by an informal or demi-official letter, stating that at the last Annual general meeting the President of the Chamber had referred to the question in his address, and had asked for an informal vote, which was unanimously given in favour of the views expressed by the committee. A vote not regularly taken on a subject set down for discussion, and for which no sufficient notice was given, is of no validity whatever. We know what a general assent accorded to a proposition mooted in a presidential address means. No one on such an occasion is disposed to bring in discord where harmony should prevail, and we are sure that many who would, if the question had been brought regularly before them, have expressed a different view, remained altogether silent. The result is that the problem suggested for solution by the Exchange Banks, and the Government itself, remains unsolved. But the side-wind told, the rebuff previously given by the Chamber is met with a spirit of Christian humility, the insult offered is quietly swallowed, and the Government was satisfied. We believe we have satisfactorily shown that the inconvenience complained of is very infinitesimal, and it yet remains to be proved that it is felt by the majority of the mercantile community. And to record this, the Government of the day has, we deeply regret, shown an utter disregard of the feelings and sentiments of the people at large, and recklessly thrown overboard the noble principle enunciated in the orders of 1880 and re-affirmed over and over again.

It has now been ruled that the holidays will be curtailed under the Negotiable Instruments Act, but the balance will be allowed as holidays under an executive order of Government in all but a few excepted offices under the Government. The Government of India say that these holidays which do not require to be notified under the Act "may be allowed as a matter of executive arrangement." We all know the difference in legal phraseology between "may" and "shall,"—it is not said that these holidays *shall* be allowed by Executive order, and they *may* be allowed as well as *not*. Here in all human probability is the "beginning of the end." We have now holidays and holidays, close holidays and holidays granted at the sweet will of Government; we see to what way the sympathies of Government tend, and we naturally fear the worst. We anticipate that the excepted offices will gradually swell in number, and the offices enjoying the optional holidays will become smaller by degrees, and beautifully less in the end. Even now we do not see why some of the offices mentioned have been excepted. The gist of the complaint of the mercantile community has been reduced, as we have noticed above, to the non-collection of bills receivable and non-payment of bills payable. They wanted to force the Exchange Banks to open during the holidays for the purpose of obtaining monetary assistance and their object has been attained. The Government scouts the idea of the "opening or closing of a particular office" so much "impeding the transaction of public business as the closure of the Exchange Banks," but still it considers it important that the offices should be kept open. The Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta, has shown definitely by a statistical return for the last twenty years, how few the registrations by merchants and traders are for the first fifteen days following the opening of the office after the Durga Puja holidays; the Superintendent of Stamps says, that it would only be necessary for parties to lay in a sufficient stock of stamped forms to carry them over the holidays; and the Superintendent of Stamp Revenue, Calcutta, observes that all firms and men of business provide themselves with a sufficient supply in advance of their requirements and particularly against wants during close holidays, and that the public are also served by some 70 or 80 licensed vendors. We need not go into further details. Still these offices are to be kept open during the optional holidays. The merchants have not, so far as we can see, asked for the opening of these offices, but still our considerate and benign Government sacrifices the needs of the employes in these offices to the *possible* wants of the mercantile community. We cannot too strongly condemn such action.

Now, as to the effect of the orders published. The Government of India says that "under proper arrangements, so far from hardship being entailed on any considerable section of the community, not more than 3 or 4 Hindu clerks under the Government of Bengal are likely to be affected by the change." We are surprised at this conclusion, deliberately arrived at by the Government. It forgets that all the Exchange Banks, all the Merchant Offices will be kept open, and it ignores what its own officers have said on the subject. All public offices under the Government of Bengal, with the exception of certain offices, are said to be kept closed during notified Mahomedan Holidays. Can the Government say that a single office in Calcutta under either the Government of Bengal or that of India is kept closed during these holidays? What has happened in respect to these holidays is likely to happen again in respect to the optional Hindu holidays. We shall conclude with a few quotations as to the effect of the orders in a few offices. The Registrar of Calcutta says—"The excepted offices will, as a matter of fact, be kept wholly open, and although the benevolent special instructions of Government direct that though it is not expedient to close them on the days in question, it is hoped that it will be possible to relieve of their duties on those days any ministerial officers whose religious requirements compel them to apply for leave. The heads of departments as a matter of fact will find great difficulty in extending that privilege, exegencies of the service constraining them to refuse the just claims of the poor clerks who cannot force themselves into the notice of the higher authorities without suffering seriously in return." The Collector of Stamp Revenue observes: "the number of European Christians and Mahomedan hands in the office of the Collector is not large enough to admit of the Hindu assistants being relieved during the Hindu holidays, and it is to be borne in mind that the proposal affects not only the offices attached to the Stamp department but also those employed in the Treasury and Account departments, which must necessarily be kept open with the Stamp department, so that practically almost the entire office will be deprived of a concession which has been long enjoyed and which is highly appreciated for several good reasons."

SENSATIONAL LEGISLATION.

LAW-making is an onerous task. It requires a vast amount of forethought, of prudence and of earnest deliberation to be salutory. Men like Manu and Moses possessed these qualifications to an extraordinary degree, and hence it is that their names are held in high estimation, though their laws do not always stand the test of experience and reason. In modern days such is however not the case. Many law-makers of our times work with an eye to the gallery, and to them the susceptibilities of certain sections of the public are matters of paramount consideration. In Calcutta few can venture upon any topic that would be disagreeable or injurious to the interests of the more influential European community. Lord Ripon and Mr. Ilbert paid dearly the penalty for not bearing this truth in mind, when they had their Black Act in hand. The first Black Act was ushered in by Lord Macaulay, then in the heyday of his glory and influence, but it evoked not a little opposition nevertheless. That, however, is not the theme of this article. We want here to notice only those attempts at legislation which owe their origin to mere hankering after notoriety, or to a mistaken idea of proportion. Such are the projects of law which exhibit a hypertrophied feeling about humanity, mercy and the like. By way of example we should name such laws as aim at the preservation of wild birds, and the treatment of animals intended for food. One law requires that fowls intended from the market for immediate slaughter should not be carried about with their legs tied and head hanging downwards. Such a law bespeaks mercy in the same sense which in the romance makes Buddha give up his life for feeding the cubs of a famished tigress. It ensures praise everywhere, except where there is some play of wisdom. Ladies are particularly fond of displaying their universal benevolence in praise of such acts, but it does not appear that their actions are dictated by any sense of wisdom. It is certain that those who feel scandalized at the sight of a fowl or a snipe tied by the feet do not at all evince any repugnance when eating those birds. We feel pretty sure that none of the authors of game laws in India was a vegetarian, or at all attempted to reconcile those Acts when indulging in flesh meat. The roasts of such lawgivers go hand in hand with their universal mercy, and never fall out. Nor is it a case always of mock sentimentality. There is no denying that there is a corner in the human heart which is really susceptible of pain at the sight of cruelty to animals, and an appeal to it is frequently effectual; but somehow or other that feeling is not always antagonistic to cruelty. There are members of the Gun Club who are certainly and truly merciful, and the paradox is that they manage somehow to reconcile their mercy with their pastime of shooting pigeons by scores as a mere play. Nor is this inconsistency confined to members of the Gun Club. The most merciful beings on earth are civilized ladies, and it is well known that the best of them patronize pigeon shooting by their presence, and take great delight in bull fights, and we cannot exclude in the category Hindu ladies of even the gentlest birth. They tremble at the idea of shooting, but there is not a Kamini or a Mohini of 20 or 25 or even 30 years age who will not be in ecstacy at the sight of a big *Rohi* fish writhing in agony in her compound, and there is positively a strong competition as to who should have the matron's sanction to decapitate that fish and to incarnadine their soft delicate hands with its blood. We have seen, and it is a common sight, Bengali young ladies frying live *Koi* fish writhing in boiling oil and every now and then jumping out of the frying pan. The young ladies never for a moment think of any cruelty when engaged in such frying, and yet the man would be devoid of all sense of the sanctity of truth who would deny the gentlest feeling of mercy to such young ladies. The fact is paradoxical; but it would seem the co-existence in the same individual of such cruelty and the highest feeling of gentility and mercy is common. It is a natural sight, even as is the maternal love of a tigress playing with her cubs and instantly jumping on the human passer-by and draining his life-blood from his neck. This may be quite true. We live in a world of paradoxes; but it is reasonable to expect a sounder justification in the action of our legislators, and when such legislators make laws of the most mischievous kind, it is not easy to put down our feeling of reprobaion. We have a law against shooting *monaul* and other handsome pheasants, on the hills around Simla, and it would almost seem that beauty is the protection in such cases, but no æsthetics an be tolerated against the pleasure of shooting monauls by Europeans, and the local law provids that it is no offence to shoot monauls by Europeas even in the breeding season. One cannot repress a smile when a justification is attempted for such wanton acts of cruelty. Economic law are often appealed to in the justification of such slaughter. A scheme of law is on the board before the Legislature for the prohibition of killing insectivorous birds. Such birds serve humanity by destroying vermin which injure the crops. So say the advocates of the law; but fowls are insectivorous to a large extent; they kill no end of insects which if left to themselves would injure the food of man; but will any legislator tell us that they would give up the eating of fowls even to preserve the destroyers of insects; and how about the evils which the nursing of insectivorous birds create? Goldsmith ridiculed mock humanity in his tale of the community which nursed squirrels. Man in that tale is driven out of home by a positive pest of squirrels. In our own time we have realized the force of the argument urged in that story. In Australia there were originally no rabbits and consequently no rabbit-eating animals. Europeans have now naturalized and nursed pussy in that country, and it has become such a pest, that lacs over lacs of rupees are being spent for its destruction. Not all the rage for rabbit skins and furs in Europe now suffice to put down the evil. The subject of suicide is another prolific theme of discus-

sion among some legislators and others. Their favorite plan is to regulate the sale of poisonous drugs so as to prevent such drugs coming to the hands of persons who wish to do away with their lives. The object is no doubt praiseworthy, but how effectually to do it is the rub in a country whose Government derives millions of money every year by the sale of opium, and more than 50 per cent of our suicides resort to opium for their purpose. Can the Government afford to check the flow of Abkari income by prohibiting the sale of opium? Should it, however, do so, and inveterate attempts at suicide will always find rope enough in the country to serve their purpose, and if the sale of rope be prohibited the *dhotee* or *saree* will always be at hand, and more than 5 and 20 per cent of suicides are due to the mischief caused by means of clothing. If clothing be prohibited, the Blackfriar's Bridge and the Waterloo Bridge will still be accessible in London, and our domestic wells in Calcutta will be even more easily accessible. Such an idea does not enter into the heads of our legislators. People in a moralising and fault-finding mood often forget the issues which their descantings give rise to. A few *kingfishers* and *boglas* are the animals which have fallen under the evil eye of Young Nimrod. But what of the human beings who earn their living by selling the feathers of those birds and what of the quantity of corn and fish the *boglas* would eat up which are lost as food to man? A debit and credit account is not possible, but we smile at the idea of sage legislators busying themselves with framing laws about such matters. It is a travesty of humanity to dwell upon mercy in such cases.

SIR THEODORE HOPE ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

AT a recent meeting of the Society of Arts held under the presidency of the Marquis of Ripon, Sir Theodore Hope, our late Public Works Minister, read an interesting paper upon "Railways in India." There is nothing new in the paper, as Sir Theodore did not touch upon the important controversial matters which were so ably discussed by Sir Inland Danvers in his lecture on the same subject delivered before the Society of Arts a little more than a year ago. The main object of the paper under notice is to explain the rationale of railways in India, what are their relations to the country, to the people, and to each other. In dealing with the first portion of his subject, Sir Theodore Hope divides the progress of railway extension between its inception and the present time into three periods —namely, the era of trunk lines, the era of famine protection, and the era of military defence. The era of trunk lines, as the reader knows, commenced in the year 1850 with two companies, the East Indian and the Great Indian Peninsula. Lord Dalhousie realised the fact that India's great need was a few trunk line connecting the various presidencies or distinct portions of the Empire, and suitable as arteries with which minor lines might hereafter be connected as occasion required. The most important and valuable line, to Lord Dalhousie's thinking, was the line from Calcutta, by the Ganges valley to the North-Western Provinces, and onward to Lahore and Attock. This line his Lordship justly pronounced is "a very noble work, replete with the highest advantages to the Governmet and the public." Next in order of importance and value, he thought, would be some line uniting Hindustan with Bombay. As to Madras, the great Proconsul declared that connection with Bombay was its chief want, for military no less than commercial purposes. We know that the whole of Lord Dalhousie's great project has been carried out; but the furnishing of India with trunk lines did not end with his Lordship's initiatory scheme. A trunk line between the Punjab and Sind was sanctioned by him in 1855. This undertaking was afterwards expanded by a railway from Amritsar to Multan, and Multan was, in the end, connected with Karachi. In 1858 the Eastern Bengal Railway was sanctioned. This line was initiated with the view of serving in due time the whole territories to the eastward, and its extension to Mymensingh, to Chittagong, to Sylhet and to Upper Assam was contemplated. This project has not yet been carried out in its entirety, though Mymensingh can now be reached by a local line. Sir Theodore Hope strongly insists on the necessity of establishing railway communication with Assam. He says:—"Thus, the Bengal territory to the eastward, and the entire province of Assam are still entirely destitute of railway connection with the rest of India or their own seaport of Chittagong. The districts of Bengal, Sylhet, and Cachar now served by the port of Chittagong are some 99,000 square miles in area, with twice the population of Canada. Some of these districts contain a population averaging from 450 to 750 souls per square mile, others compromise vast tracts of highly fertile alluvial soil absolutely unappropriated, and only waiting population and means of access to turn out wheat, rice cotton, oilseeds, tea and other valuable products. Of tea gardens there are already, in this tract and Upper Assam, nearly 900, worked by some 300,000 coolies, while, finally, excellent coal, petroleum, and other minerals only need a railway in order to create a new industry on a large scale. Chittagong is the natural outlet of these vast resources; and although devoid of either rail or road to the interior, its trade has grown from some 55 lakhs to 320 lakhs in the last twelve years, and all efforts to force the traffic to Calcutta are evidently destined to be futile." It is well known that Sir Theodore Hope since his retirement from India endeavoured to form a syndicate in London for undertaking the construction of the line which he so strongly advocates; but all his efforts in this direction came to nothing. The simple truth is that no British capitalist would invest his money in Indian Railways without a Government guarantee, and the Government has rightly decided not to give any more guarantees. We, however, agree with Sir Theodore in thinking that now that the pressure of famine protection and military defence on the one hand and of the Burma annexation on the other, have been greatly relieved, the time has come when the claims of Eastern Bengal and Assam for easy communication with the rest of India should obtain precedence over all other schemes of railway extension.

Coming to the era of famine protection, Sir Theodore Hope told his hearers that in the 109 years between 1769 to 1878 there occurred 21 famines in India, and that it is quite impossible to estimate the total mortality which they occasioned. Lord Lytton, in his speech in the Legislative Council on 5th January 1878 on John Strachey's proposal for the creation of a famine insurance fund declared emphatically that the railways, and the railways alone, saved the people of North Behar during the famine of 1874, and that they had again been the salvation of the Madras people in the wide-spread and terrible famine that was then raging. The Famine Commission of 1880 took the same view of the paramount importance of railways for famine relief. They roughly estimated 5000 miles of railway to be required to meet the probable present needs of the more accessible tracts for which protection was absolutely needed During Lord Ripon's Viceroyalty the construction of famine railways was pushed on with great vigour. The Government of India decided that it is essential that the Chattisgurh country in the Central Provinces which raises annually 241,000 tons of grain more than the people consume should be connected by railway with all the provinces of India which have suffered most from famine In pursuance of this policy, the Bengal-Nagpore Railway which, when completed, will connect Northern Bengal with Behar, was started. In speaking of the famine railway scheme as matured by himself and Lord Ripon in 1882-83, Sir Theodore Hope points out that one project of really primary importance still remains untouched—namely, the branch from Bengal-Nagpore Railway to Orissa. He observes: "I feel that nothing I might say could exaggerate the importance and the significance of this omission. A million of human beings perished in Orissa in 1869 [it should be in 1865-66], and a million and a half sterling was spent in mostly futile measures of relief. Since then, nothing has been done to improve the communications, except the far from satisfactory East Coast Canal. This railway would cost under two millions. Orissa is now virtually unprotected. Let the Government look to it—let them, I say, look to it ere trouble comes." We subscribe to every word in the passage we have just quoted. The importance of establishing railway communication with Orissa cannot, indeed, be exaggerated. The British Indian Association addressed the Government some time ago on the absolute necessity of building the Puri Branch without delay. It is said that the question of constructing this line is now under the consideration of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company. A few months ago the company deputed one of its engineers, Mr. Moore, to make a survey of the line and the survey has already been completed. We are told that Mr. Moore has formed a favourable opinion on the project, and we hope very earnestly that it will be carried out without further loss of time. Lastly, Sir Theodore Hope dealt with the era of military defence. Lord Lytton's second Afghan War led to the construction of the Ruk-Sibi line across the desert, in order to aid our armies on their march up the Bolan Pass. The Rawal Pindi-Kushalgurh line was sanctioned about the same time with the view of supporting our troops in the Koorum valley; but this line was not opened until after the termination of the war. In the spring of 1884, when the Russians occupied Merv, the extension of the Ruk-Sibiline to Quetta, with a branch into the Koorum valley was sanctioned. But this measure was not deemed sufficient. In the autumn the Sind-Sagar Railway was commenced, and a bridge across the Sutlej at Ferozepore was sanctioned, with a view to render the great arsenal there more readily available. At the same time two great military roads—one from Dera Ismail Khan to Khushalgurh, and the other from Dera Ghazi Khan to the Pishin valley—were undertaken. Various other measures have since been adopted, such as the tunnelling of the Amran range at an expenditure of two crores of rupees and the provision of a reserve of railway material at Chaman, in the hope that the Ameer of Afghanistan would sanction an extension to Kandahar. But this hope is never destined to be fulfilled. The execution of the defence works above mentioned has cost and is still costing enormous sums of money and has seriously embarrassed the finances of the Empire. But whether this vast expenditure will be productive of any real advantage to the Empire has been questioned by high military authorities, as we showed in a recent issue. The so-called defence works have in the opinion of Colonel Maurice, instead of strengthening our position, weakened it. Sir Theodore Hope thus concludes his paper:—"I sincerely trust that no visionary commercial advantages, and no lust of political predominance in distant countries, will tempt us to advance beyond our existing and recognised sphere of influence, or to make paths, for our foes perchance, as well as ourselves, across deserts and mountains which are now to us an effective barrier of defence." This is certainly the advice of genuine statesmanship; but there is little hope that the Government of India will listen to it.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

WE notice that the Bengal Provincial Railway Company, which is to be under purely native management, has determined to construct a feeder line of 30 miles to join Tarkessur to Tribeni Ghat *via* Mugra station on the East Indian Railway. The line is to be on narrow gauge.

MR. AND MRS. C. JEHANGIR READYMONEY were presented to the Queen by the Prince of Wales at a garden-party on Monday. The Queen commanded them to be at Windsor that they might be received by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught.

WE are pleased to find that the Honble Syed Amir Hossain has returned from leave with renovated health. His Worship resumes his seat on the bench to-day.

THE Simla question is verily hard of solution. In the name of economy, or a supposed substitute of it, a number of Revenue department clerks were left back last year, while the major portion of the secretariat moved down to the presidency. It did not answer and in the bargain much sickness prevailed among the poor clerks unaccustomed to the inclemencies of the weather. The idea will be abandoned this year, and the whole of the secretariat will come back as usual. It is well that this decision has been come to, as there has already been a considerable number of deaths among the clerks from pulmanory complaints. The new secretariat buildings are expected to be ready for occupation by the end of the year.

BABU Surendra Nath Banerjee was entertained by the members of the Indian Association at dinner on Friday last.

THE public meeting to accord a suitable reception to Babu Surendranath Banerjee takes place to-day at the Town Hall at 5-15 P. M., under the presidency of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee.

IN the House of Commons Mr. Bradlaugh asked the Secretary of State on Friday last whether the Circular order under which the examination of the three dismissed Assistant surgeons was conducted, lays down the procedure; whether Dr. Hilson was not acting beyond his powers in interfering with the decision of the Examining Committee; and also for the publication of Dr. Hilson's reports to the Government of Bengal, to the Government of India, and to the Surgeon-General with the Government of India. Sir John Gorst in replying said that the examination of the Assistant-surgeons was not held under the Circular of the 15th September 1868, but under the orders of 13th October 1880. The papers were promised, if Mr. Bradlaugh after seeing them thinks them of sufficient importance to be produced.

THE Advocate-General's opinion has been taken in the case of the Corporation *versus* Dr. *Simpson*; and without being guilty of betraying an "official secret" we may safely say that the learned Advocate General's reading of the Act is by no means favourable to the learned doctor. Mr. Lee is unfortunately ill at the present moment, and as soon as he is able to attend to business counsel's opinion will be placed before him for consideration.

THE following letter from Lord Northbrook to Maharaja Sir Narendrakrishna Bahadur, K. C. I. E will be read with great pleasure:

June 26, 1890.

DEAR SIR Narendra Krishna,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th of May with its enclosures informing me of the manner in which the Committee of which you were the Chairman have decided to dispose of the surplus remaining in their hands from the fund which my friends in India were so kind as to connect with my name.

Will you be so kind as to acquaint the Committee that no disposal of the money in question could have been more in accordance with my feelings than that it should be placed in the hands of so valuable an institution as the District Charitable Society of Calcutta.

At the same time I would beg you to receive yourself and to communicate to the Committee my very sincere thanks for the trouble which they have been so kind as to take in the matter.

Believe me yours sincerely
NORTHBROOK.

THE House of Representatives has passed the Silver Bill in its entirety, there being a Republican majority in its favour. President Harrison affixed his signature to the Silver Bill on Monday. The Bill will take effect from the 13th of August.

THE marriage of Mr. Stanley with Miss Dorothy Tenant has been solemnized at Westminster Abbey. The ceremony was a most brilliant one, and many notables were present. Large crowds outside the Abbey gave the happy pair a most enthusiastic reception.

DARJEELING is specially unfortunate this year in the matter of rains, storms and landslips owing to excessive rain (over 13 inches). Two bridges at the twenty-fifth mile between Gyabarie and Mahanuddy stations have been washed away, and through traffic for both passengers and goods is suspended in consequence. It will probably be at least a week before traffic can be resumed. The *recent* heavy rains have caused much damage to tea estates in the Terai. The planters are compelled to keep up communication by boats.

REUTER telegraphs that the opponents of the India Councils Bill persisting in their opposition, it is probable that the Bill will be dropped by Government. Mr. Smith, however, hopes that the Bill might even yet pass during the present session. Our friends in England have to be very careful in all that they say and do.

THE Chartered Bank fraud case is still dragging its slow length along. It was partly gone into on Wednesday and Thursday. It has been re-adjourned to Wednesday next.

A MEETING was held in London, on Monday, of the Female Medical Aid Society at which Sir Grant Duff presided. Lord Reay, Sir Walter De Souza, and many others were present. The report of the Society appeals to one thousand ladies of Great Britain to come forward and each subscribe one pound yearly. Lord Reay said that a staff of skilled nurses was the chief want. His Lordship was unable to advocate Government support, and favoured the establishment, by local bodies, of a hospital in every town in India.

DESCRIBING a shady transaction, Byron says in poetry:

"For fear some prudish readers should grow skittish,
I've bribed my grandmother's review—the "British."

"I sent it in a letter to the Editor
Who thank'd me duly by return of post—
I'm for a handsome article his creditor;
Yet, if my gentle Muse he please to roast,
And break a promise after having made it her,
Denying the receipt of what it cost
And smear his page with gall instead of honey,
All I can say is—that he had the money."

In the ornate polished prose of the *Indian Mirror*, a somewhat similar transaction is described thus:—"At the time the British Indian Association subscribed for hundreds of copies of the *Statesman* for distribution in England." The circumstantiality of the former greatly serves to point to the joke; that of the latter makes it a libel, and well may the ghost of the late Mr. Robert Knight exclaim, "Save me from my friends." We apprehended something like this when we said, "we think it would not be proper to pry into the secrets of the editorial chamber" &c. &c. Our friend of the *Indian Mirror* has failed to be equally reticent. By the way, is it hypnotism, or mesmerism, or thought-reading, or Kuth Humi Lal Sing that has enabled our friend, the Editor, to know that the British Indian Association did purchase "hundreds of copies"? The Secretary of that Association informs us that no such transaction ever took place, and the Editor must have confounded the transaction of some other persons. It would be easy to trace the names of such persons, but, as we said before it would not be proper, and we shall do nothing of the kind.

LAST Wednesday a meeting was held at the Dalhousie Institute to consider what steps should be taken for founding a 'Home for European and Eurasian Lepers'. Mr. S. E. J. Clarke of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce representing the wealthiest and most influential section of the European community, moved an amendment to the effect that "the question of provision for European and Eurasian lepers should not be treated separately from the question of the establishment of a leper hospital, and that an appeal to the public at the present time would be inexpedient and inopportune." The speaker entered into the history of the present Leper Asylum, which was established in the year 1812, and was made over to the District Charitable Society in 1830. In 1878 the first Eurasian applied for admission, and at present there were only eight of the class for whom it was sought to make separate provision. For the last five years the Health Society had been agitating the leper question, and now the Government had taken it in hand with considerable funds at its disposal. The land belonging to the present Asylum was estimated as worth a lakh, the Charitable Society had Rs. 20,000, the Permanent Memorial Committee had got subscriptions for Rs. 46,000, the Government subscribed Rs. 200 a month, and the Municipality Rs. 125 a month. Since 1878 only fifteen European and Eurasian lepers have entered the Asylum. That was not a large amount of suffering to deal with and he did not think it justified a separate movement. Besides they had no particulars before them regarding Captain Haye's scheme. Mr. Simmons seconded the amendment. He objected strongly to two separate Asylums, as they would form two separate centres of disease, and would encourage every separate community to ask for a special Asylum for itself. Only one asylum was wanted, and he, therefore, asked those present to support the Government. Dr. Lal Madhub Mukerji also spoke in favour of one Government Institution. Reverend Mr. Hopkins, the seconder of the orginal movement, while quite right in his observation that wherever officialism prevailed it killed sympathy was wrong in supposing that the present opposition was official. He had, therefore, hardly any justification for remarking that 'the oppositionists ought to be ashamed of themselves and are a'disgrace to the Calcutta community.' Mr. Clarke's amendment was lost. It is a matter of supreme regret that unfortunate lepers should evoke so much bad blood and difference of opinion.

IN this connection it is interesting to learn that a meeting was recently held of the executive Committee of the National Leprosy Fund of Great Britian, Fredinand Rothschild presiding. A letter from Lord Lansdowne was read, in which he states that in the event of the Committee sending a Commission of three members to India the Indian Government will depute two officials to co-operate with them. The Committee resolved to subscribe a thousand pounds to the Indian fund and appoint a Commission immediately. The College of Surgeons and the College of Physicians are nominating two members.

THE Government of Bengal has, we understand, formed a joint committee of some of the members of the Corporation, the District Charitable Society, and the Permanent Memorial Fund to make arrangements for the removal of the Leper Asylum to the suburbs. The Corporration have accorded their sympathy and will no doubt give subsantial aid. The District Charitable Society will give the proceeds of the sale of the present site (worth about a lakh) together with the special trusts they hold for lepers, and the Permanent Memorial Fund will make over the subscriptions they have received. The Asylum will most likely be removed to the northern suburbs and the land to be taken up will be about 50 bighas. The sexes will be separated and each class *i. e.* Europeans and Eurasians, Hindus and Mahomedans, will be provided with separate accommodation away from each other. There will be two resident medical officers, and if on enquiry there are found to be sufficient number of paying patients, bungalows comfortably fitted will be erected. One difficulty that presents itself is the water supply. It is considered inadvisable that lepers should have the use of the tanks, and special arrangements will have to be made to supply the new Asylum with pipe water.

A Burdwan telegram states that Mr. Dutt, the Collector of Burdwan, has visited the Lakhra breaches of the Damodar and the afflicted tract of country. He expressed the opinion

that the state of affairs was much worse than he had anticipated and was shocked at the sight of the total destruction of the Lakhra village. The Collector promised Government help in raising the huts of the houseless ryots. Since his visit two smaller risings have caused the floods to overflow again the afflicted villages, the country being on a level with the river bed. Consequent on the Lakhra breaches serious distress prevails. Unless immediately closed, the breaches threaten constant danger to human life. Numerous villages are threatened with total extinction. The Lieutenant-Governor's visit to the spot is earnestly solicited.

WE learn with great pleasure that so many as five Indian candidates have successfully passed the Civil Service examination this year. The following is their list with the place and number secured by each :—

19th, Satish Chunder Mukerjee ...	1,880
21st, Arabindu Ghose (son of Dr. K. D. Ghose of Khulna)	1,854
42nd, G. Madgaokar (Hindoo from Bombay)	1,583
43rd, Mahomed Yusuf (son of Moulvie Jelaluddeen, pleader. Bankipore)	1,567
45th, Mahimohun Ghose, (son of Mr. Monmohun Ghose)	1 549

Some 250 candidates went up of whom ten were natives of India. In no year previously did so large a number of young men pass the examination. This is very encouraging considering the difficulties and disadvantages that they have had to labour under.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor held a Durbar at Belvedere on Tuesday last at 4-30 P. M. for the purpose of investing Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Bahadoor, K.C.S.I, of Calcutta; Maharaja Mohendro Deo Saont, of Athmullik; Raja Jyoti Prosad Gorga, of Maisadul in Midnapore; Mahamahopadhyaya Ayodhya Nath Miser Samavedi, of Pota in Mozufferpur; Mahamahopadhyaya Krishna Singh Thakur, of Bhoar in Tirhut; Mahamahopadhyaya Kanhai Lal Jha, of Mangraumi in Durbhunga; Shamsul-Ulma Maulavi Abdur Rauf, of Patna; Moulavi Ahmad Khan Bahadur, of Calcutta; Rai Mata Din Bahadur, of Patna; Rai Nundo Kishore Das Bahadur, Assistant Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Orissa; Rai Kali Pada Mukerjea Bahadur, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Orissa; and Rai Nalinaksha Bose Bahadur, of Burdwan.

In presenting the *sunud* conferring the title of Maharaja Bahadur to Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore K.C.S.I., His Honor said:

Maharaja Jotindro Mohun Tagore,—It is not only because you are the representative of a distinguished family, or the possessor of great wealth, that I congratulate myself on being the Viceroy's agent to-day in conferring on you the crowning title of Maharaja Bahadoor. It is because, having "inherited" these means of distinction, you have so used them during your life as to have added lustre to an illustrious name, and have employed your wealth in enriching the lives of others. Since first you came before the public as the heir of your much regretted uncle, Prasanna Kumar Tagore, rarely has a year passed unmarked by some deed of well directed munificence or some public-spirited action on your part, and rarely has a year passed without some distinction being conferred on you by the Government. Your tenure of seat first in the Bengal and afterwards in the Imperial Legislative Council, the successive grades of the order of the Star of India, the titles of Raja Bahadoor, successively bestowed on you, testify to the appreciation by Government of your merits; while your public and private benevolences, your exalted personal character, and your wise and unselfish use of the influence which you had justly acquired, are more fully and worthily honored in the universal esteem and regard which is borne towards you by all sorts and conditions of men. To me personally it is a source of sincere satisfaction that it has fallen to my lot, as an incident in a long continued and pleasant friendship, to be the instrument of conveying to you this renewed mark of the high esteem in which you are held by the representative of our Queen-Empress, and may you live long to enjoy your well-deserved honours.

The Maharaja fully deserves all this praise and a great deal more. He is the acknowledged head of the native community in Calcutta, and we all rejoice that sterling worth has thus been honored in his person by Government.

In presenting sunnds and khillats to the other recipients of titles, His Honor addressed to each of them a few kind words expressing his high appreciation of the value of the services they had rendered to the State. We offer our cordial congratulations to the noblemen and gentlemen who have been thus honored by our gracious Sovereign. May they long enjoy the honors which have been conferred on them.

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor starts on his rainy season trip to-day. The following is the programme of the tour:—

	July.	
Monday,	21st	Arrive Hooghly 7-47 A. M. Arrive Burdwan 7-36 P. M. ... By rail.
Tuesday,	22nd	and Wednesday, 23rd Halt.
Thursday,	24th	Return to Hooghly by rail.
Friday,	25th	Arrive Krishnaghur by river.
Saturday, Sunday,	26th 27th	Halt.
Monday,	28th	Arrive Berhampur by river.
Tuesday, Wednesday,	29th 30th	Halt.
Thursday,	31st	Arrive Moorshedabad by river.
	August.	
Friday,	1st	Arrive Jungipore by river.
Saturday,	2nd	Arrive Rampore Beauleah by river.
Sunday,	3rd	Halt Rampore Beauleah.
Monday,	4th	Leave Rampore Beauleah by river.
Tuesday,	5th	*En route* to Maldah by river.
Wednesday, Thursday,	6th 7th	Halt Maldah.
Friday,	8th	Leave Maldah.
Saturday,	9th	Pass Sahibgunge; reach Bhagulpore by river.
Sunday, Monday,	10th 11th	Halt Bhagulpore.
Tuesday,	12th	Reach Monghyr by river.
Wednesday, Thursday,	13th 14th	Halt Monghyr.
Friday,	15th	Arrive Barh by river.
Saturday,	16th	Arrive Bankipore by river.
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,	17th 18th 19th	Halt Bankipore.
Wednesday,	20th	Arrive Arrah by rail.
Thursday,	21st	Halt Arrah.
Friday,	22nd	Join *Rhotas* at Buxar.
Saturday,	23rd	Reach Ghazipur by rail.
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,	24th 25th 26th	Halt Ghazipur.
Wednesday,	27th	Return to Chupra, leaving *Rhotas*.
Thursday, Friday,	28th 29th	Halt Chupra.
Saturday,	30th	Sewan by rail and drive to Hutwa.
Sunday,	31st	Halt Hutwa.
	September.	
Monday,	1st	Drive to Moniari.
Tuesday,	2nd	Drive to Bettiah.
Wednesday,	3rd	Halt Bettiah.
Thursday,	4th	Arrive Motihari.
Friday,	5th	Halt Motihari.
Saturday,	6th	Arrive Mozufferpore.
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,	7th 8th 9th	Halt Mozufferpore.
Wednesday,	10th	Arrive Bankipore.
Thursday,	11th	Arrive Gya.
Friday,	12th	Halt Gya.
Saturday,	13th	Return Bankipore.
Sunday,	14th	Halt Bankipore.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,	15th 16th 17th 18th	Halt Durbhunga, including visit to Sitamarhi by rail, if open.
Friday,	19th	*Via* Pertabgunge to Purneah.
Saturday, Sunday,	20th 21st	Halt Purneah.
Monday,	22nd	Arrive Rungpore.
Tuesday, Wednesday,	23rd 24th	Halt.
Thursday,	25th	Return Darjeeling.

ALTERNATIVE IF CONNEXION ACROSS KOSI IS IMPOSSIBLE.

	September	
Wednesday,	10th	Arrive Durbhunga.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,	11th 12th 13th	Halt Durbhunga; visit Sitamarhi and Pertabgunge and return to Bankipore.
Sunday,	14th	Halt Bankipore.
Monday, Tuesday,	15th 16th	Gya.
Wednesday,	17th	Return Bankipore.
Thursday,	18th	Leave Bankipore.
Friday,	19th	Arrive Purneah.
		And thereafter as arranged.

WE are glad that Sir Auckland Colvin did after all order an enquiry into the assault on Pundit Hridaynarayan of Cawnpur. The allegations made against the Police needed an enquiry. Great excitement prevailed and about 4000 people were present at the Cawnpur Town Hall on Monday and Tuesday where the Commissioner of the Division held the enquiry. The complainant was represented by counsel. The following is a telegraphic summary of the report of the enquiry:

The Commissioner opened the proceedings with a word of explanation. The Lieutenant-Governor had made over the Cawnpore memorial to him for consideration and disposal. As his Honor's decision had not given satisfaction to the complainant, it would perhaps be good if the Commissioner went over the facts and ascertained for himself regarding the case, and afforded Pundit Prithinath and others an opportunity to establish their allegations. He then examined Pundits Hirdaynarain and Prithinath, putting most searching questions which were answered. The Commissioner then offered another explanation. He had been criticised by the press, and though not thin-skinned, he might there say that his report of the case which formed the basis of his Honor's decision, was naturally based on the report of Mr. Wright whom he thought the best man to consult as to the true facts of the case. The Commissioner then read a portion of Mr. Wright's report withholding animadversions on the article in the *Lucknow Advocate*; he also read an extract from his own report, similarly withholding portions which contained his own view of what should be done with an article like that in the *Advocate*. In the course of the enquiry, he more than once remarked that the course adopted by the complainant was very unusual, to which complainant's reply was that the unusual relations existing between him and the magistrate had forced that on him.

The enquiry was resumed on Tuesday. The district superintendent of police and magistrate were examined. Two material points of difference from complainant's statement were brought out. First, Pundits Hridaynarain and Prithinath never mentioned the name of the assailant. Secondly;—Mr. Wright had told Hridaynarain that an enquiry would be made, if the complaint was formally lodged. The Commissioner pointed out that four courses were open to the complainant, first they could move for a fresh magisterial enquiry; second, the Commissioner himself might continue the investigation, third, the Commissioner might move Government to start a more formal enquiry, and fourth he might advise the magistrate himself to take cognisance underSec. 191C The Commissioner recommended a judicial enquiry but he could never ask Government to appoint a mixed commission, if complainants did not before 31st July move the magistrate to make an enquiry; he proposed to advise the magistrate to take cognisance of the case. Before closing the first part of the enquiry, he would like to give an opportunity to counsel to re-examine witnesses and rebut their evidence. Counsel considered that reflections had been cast on his clients by recorded evidence and tried to elicit facts more favorable to his clients. Counsel, however, refused to offer any evidence. Then followed a rather heated altercation, the Commissioner trying to elicit what evidence he could from the complainants regarding the magistrate's indifferenee lest he might be charged with having left the enquiry incomplete. The Commissioner said that the case had become very complex by the course now adopted by counsel and that it had become incumbent on him to bring out what appeared the true aspects of the case. He would make a strong report. This ended the enquiry.

We must reserve our opinion till we know the detailed results of the enquiry.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS GREAT VALUE AS A NUTRIENT FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.—In cases of languid and imperfect nutrition often observed in children, the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is thus described by Dr. Edward Carey: "It is in the diseases incidental to childhood, that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body, when none other can be borne it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner; and administered as it is in Holland, the delicate and puny child, who though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are acquainted." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co. 210, High Holborn, London.

THE *Reis and Rayyet* defamation case was heard by the Honble Mr. Justice Wilson on Friday last. The following report of the case appears in the morning papers :—

PRISONER was charged with having, on the 17th of May, 1890, in Calcutta, defamed one Deno Nath Mullick, deceased, by printing and publishing concerning him, in the issue of certain newspaper, known as *Reis and Rayyet*, the following words:—(The portion was here read out by the Clerk of the Crown). But before that was done, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee (who appeared for the prisoner with Messrs. Henderson and Abdur Rahman), said that his client had been advised to plead guilty to the charges. He thought that it was unnecessary to have the defamatory articles read out. His Lordship said that that could not be done. Mr. Apcar then read the indictment, which charged the prisoner with knowing, and having good reason to believe, that such imputations, made against Dinonath Mullick, deceased, would be hurtful to the feelings of his family and his near relatives, and the said Sambhu Chunder Mukerjea had thereby committed an offence, punishable under section 501 of the Indian Penal Code; second, that on the 24th of May, 1890, he defamed the said Dinonath Mullick by printing and publishing an article concerning him.

[The article was then read by the Clerk of the Crown.] Mr. Apcar then read the indictment, which was to the effect that the said Sambhu Chunder Mukerjee knowing, and having reason to believe, that such words and matters were defamatory, and would harm the reputation of the deceased, if living, and would be intended to be hurtful to the feelings of the family, and the prisoner thereby committed an offence, punishable under Section 501 of the Indian Penal Code.

Prisoner.—I plead guilty to both the charges.

Mr. Bonnerji said that he appeared with Mr. Henderson and Mr. Abdur Rahman for the defendant. Since he had placed himself entirely in the hands of the Court, and under advice he had pleaded guilty to these charges, he had authorised Mr. Bonnerji to express the deepest regret for having published the two articles, and he asked him on his behalf to apologise to the sons of the deceased and his other relations for any hurt that he might have committed to their feelings. He had no intention whatever of doing so. He thought that he was discharging a public duty in noticing the death of Denonath Mullick. He was mistaken in what he did. He had, undoubtedly, offended against the law, and all the reparation that there was in his power now to do was to thus publicly apologise; for all that he had written, he had written from information, and without any the slightest, ill-feeling either against the deceased person or his sons, and no one was more glad than he was at the fact that one of his sons who was called as a witness in the Court below, was able in his evidence to deny the truth of the facts, contained in these articles. He accepted that, and accepted that statement as true. He wished to withdraw all that he had said. Under the circumstances, he asked His Lordship to deal as leniently with the prisoner as the law would permit His Lordship to do.

Mr. Woodroffe.—The defendant has pleaded guilty, and he through his Counsel made an apology. I did not notice in it what I should wish. I should wish him to withdraw distinctly all the observations that he had made. All that he said was that he accepted the statement as true.

Mr. Bonnerji. He withdraws all that he has written.

Mr. Woodroffe.—Under these circumstances, I leave the matter in your Lordship's hands. We don't desire to press for punishment. We feel, and felt, that it was absolutely necessary for the protection of our father's character that the statement of that kind should not be allowed to go unchallenged We have vindicated in the steps that we have taken, and the action that has been taken by the accused person in pleading guilty. We may say that we have no animosity of feeling towards a gentleman who finds himself in this unfortunate position. We do not desire for any punishment, because old man as he is, it may be productive of very serious consequences.

Wilson, J.—Shambhu Chunder Mukerji,—You have pleaded guilty to the two charges that have been brought against you of defamation,—defamation directly affecting the character of a dead man, but of such a gross kind that it could not but have the effect of bringing discredit upon those who are still living. You have pleaded guilty, and through your Counsel you have withdrawn all imputations against the character of the deceased, and expressed your regret, and the learned Counsel, who appears for the prosecution, has not pressed for punishment. On the other hand, I must remember that the offence to which you have pleaded guilty is one of a very serious character, and the law cannot tolerate that the public Press should be made the medium for attack of a purely private character, and when such attacks are made in the public papers, the law cannot allow the matter to pass without notice. Had the trial proceeded, and there had been a conviction, I would have had to deal much more severely than I am now going to do. I have taken into account the fact that you have pleaded guilty, and that you have withdrawn the charges which were made, and expressed your regret through your counsel. I take into consideration that the prosecution does not press the matter and therefore I pass what I think is a least sentence I can pass and that is that you pay a fine of Rs. 500.

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Specimens on view at 13-5 Government Place

R. HOTZ: PHOTOGRAPHER,

Sole Agent.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette.—*July* 16, 1890.

GENERAL.—Mr. E. Stewart, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madhubani, Durbhanga, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. H. Thomson, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Giridhi, Hazaribagh, on leave, is transferred to Durbhunga, and is appointed to have charge of the Madhubani sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. E. Stewart, or until further orders.

Mr. F. B. Taylor, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Purneah, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-four days under articles 308, 309, and 310 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 14th instant.

Mr. W. C. Macpherson, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Purneah, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of that district, during the absence, on leave, Mr. F. B. Taylor, or until further orders.

Mr. E. W. Collin, Settlement Officer of the Sreenagar-Bausili Estates, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Purneah, in addition to his own duties, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. W. C. Macpherson, or until further orders.

Mr. N. Warde-Jones, Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of the Public Demands Recovery Act VII (B. C.) of 1880, in the District of Cuttack.

Babu Balaram Bose, Sub-Deputy Collector, Khurdah, Puri is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Regulation IX of 1833.

Moulavi Mahammad Habibullah, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on furlough, is Posted to the Sudder station of the Dacca district.

Mr. A. C. Brett District and Sessions Judge, Mozufferpur, is allowed leave for eighty-eight days under articles 308 and 309 of the Civil service Regulations, with effect from the 12th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. G. W. Place, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Noakhali, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Mozufferpur during the absence, on leave of Mr. A. C. Brett, or until further orders.

Mr. W. Rattray, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Giridhi sub-division of the Hazaribagh district.

Mr. A. Ahmad, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Barh, Patna, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakhali, during the absence on deputation, of Mr. G. W. Place, or until further orders.

Maulavi Fazlur Rahman, Sub-Deputy Collector, Barh, Patna, is allowed leave for one month under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Moulavi Fazlur Rahman is transferred to Madhubani, in the District of Durbhunga.

Babu Ananta Lal Chatterjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Madhubani, Durdhunga, is transferred to Barh, in the District of Patna.

Babu Jnanendro Mohan Ghose is appointed to act as Sub-Deputy Collector of Madhubani in Durbhunga, during the absence, on leave of Maulavi Fazlur Rahman, or until futher orders.

Babu Peary Mohan Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is transferred to Dinajpur, and is posted to the Sudder station of that district.

Babu Dwarka Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Patna.

Mr. H. S. Beadon, Magistrate and Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed furlough for fifteen months under article 340 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 17th instant.

Babu Tara Prasanna Acharjya, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Babu Hurris Chandra Banerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is allowed leave up to the 2nd instant, inclusive, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 17th ultimo.

Babu Bepin Behari Pramanick, Sub Deputy Collector, Lohardugga, on leave, is transferred to the district of Singbhum.

Babu Jogendra Nath Chuckerbutty, Sub-Deputy Collector, Raniganj, Burdwan, is transferred to the Sudder station of that district.

Babu Radha Kishore Sett, Sub-Deputy Collector, Sewan, Sarun, on leave, is transferred to the district of Burdwan, and is posted to the Raniganj sub-division of that district.

Babu Benode Behary Sircar, Sub-Deputy Collecter, Burdwan, on deputation at Somastipur in Durbhunga, is transferred to the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, and is posted to the Diamond Harbour sub-division of that district, vice Babu Surendra Nath Sanyal, resigned.

Babu Suchitanund Mukerji, Sub-Deputy Collecter, Diamond Harbour, 24-Porgunnahs, is transferred to Khulna, and is posted to the Satkhira sub-division of that district.

Babu Bonomali Pramanick, Sub-Deputy Collector, Baraset, 24-pergunnahs, is transferred to the Basirhat sub-division of that district, vice Babu Juggut Chandra Roy, on deputation

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—Babu Sarat Chandra Pal, B L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Rungpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Kurigram, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Syud Abdur Rahman, or until further orders.

Mr. M. E. Bradford, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rampur Hat, Birbhum, is appointed, under the provisions of section 22, act X of 1882, to act as a Justice of the Peace within the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor's control.

The Lieutenant Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Anurup Chandra Mookerjee of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Serampur General Bench I, in the district of Hugli.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Maulavi Abdul Hye, Officiating Deputy Collector, Chumparun, temporarily to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at Kishoreganj, in the district of Mymensingh, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

Babu Bharika Nath Mookerjee.
Babu Hari Nath Ray.

Mr. Harry Loftus Weatherall, an Honorary Magistrate of the Naraingunge Bench, in the district of dacca, is authorized to sit singly for the trial of casses that may be made over to him.

Babu Tarack Nath Bose is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Gopalganj Bench, in the district of Faridpur, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the 3rd class.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Babu Hara Chandra Ghose, Sub-Deputy Collector and Magistarte of Sesseram, district, Shahabad, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Babu Shoshi Bhusan Bose, Deputy Magistrate of Chumparun, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle) was (Jan. 1890), "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to Memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "I intend to educate my son entirely on your system."—Rev. C. E. Cockin, M. A., Rector of Lea (Sept., 1889). "Great advantage to strong memory; incalculable aid to weak one." Dr. J. M. Buckley.' Able to give gist of book after reading it once." Rev. J. M. Macdonald, B. A. "Excellent travelling companion."—J. B. Haye, Commander, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-uddin Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. C.—"Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette* 4th Feb., 1890, Prospectus Free. One pupil, Rs. 76; Ten pupils. Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, Esq., Calcutta; or to Prof. LOISETTE. 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

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Extract

THE WOMEN OF INDIA.

(*St. James's Gazette.*

The efforts that are being made by the National Indian Association on behalf of Indian women are worthy of some attention. The subject is beset with difficulties, not the least being the feeling that exists in all classes of Native society against any attempt in the direction of female emancipation. This feeling finds frequent expression in the vernacular literature of India. In Bengal both in novels and dramas, the advanced woman is always coming to grief. For instance, in a Bengali novel, called *Speak, Oh Young Bride*, Gopal, an educated Native with liberal views acquired at an Anglo-Indian University, insists on his newly-married wife speaking to his friend Gonesh; which of course is quite contrary to Hindu notions of propriety. At first the modest bride refuses, but her husband insists; and her compliance with his wishes is the beginning of troubles. Gopal takes his wife to Calcutta, where, in the society of emancipated ladies, she throws off her bashfulness, and rapidly develops all the improper inclinations the author can think of. In the end her husband beats her to death, and commits suicide himself. In a recent volume of essays on the *Moral Teaching of Bengali Women*, the Bengali author complains that when women are educated they spend their time in reading novels, neglecting all their household duties, and forgetting the respect they owe to their superiors. It is never easy to get at the exact state of public opinion in India, but there is good reason to believe that objections of this kind are very generally felt, if not expressed. Even Native gentlemen who are sufficiently enlightened in all ordinary matters look forward with alarm to the time when the women of the country will begin to be educated.

At the same time it is beyond doubt that the women of India are quite as capable of reaching a high level of intellectual attainment as their sisters in Europe. As an Irishman would say, some of the ablest men in India have been women. The Rani of Jhansi, who gave us such trouble during the Sepoy Mutiny, the Begum of Bhopal who is one of the most enlightened feudatories of the Empire, Ahalya Bai, the famous Mahratta lady who ruled Indore a century ago, the Begum Sumru, and many other eminent women in Indian history were born to rule. Sir John Malcolm described Ahalya Bai as "an extraordinary picture: a female without vanity, a bigot without intolerance, a mind imbued with the deepest superstition, yet receiving no impressions except what promoted the happiness of those under its influence—a being exercising, in the most active and able manner, despotic power, not merely with sincere humility, but under the severest moral restraint that a strict conscience could impose on human action." In Bengal at the present day some of the largest landed estates are entirely in female hands and in commercial life many large and flourishing businesses are conducted by women through their agents. The Education Commission, in fact, had good reason for saying that "the intellectual activity of Indian women is very keen, and it seems frequently to last longer in life than the mental energies of men." * * Wisely directed, the education of Indian women may be an inestimable blessing. What is wanted, is not a system of instruction, warranted to produce an Oriental version of the English advanced female, clamouring for woman's rights and forgetful of woman's duties; but an organization that will provide Indian girls with the opportunity of acquiring as much knowledge as may really conduce to their well-being and happiness. Of the aptitude and intelligence of the pupil there can be no possible doubt; the difficulty is to provide a teacher; and here the National Indian Association might be of some use.

Advertisements.

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Tenders are invited for the supply to the Sader Opium Factory, Ghazipur of 3000 (three thousand) sound mangoe-wood planks, as specified below, to be delivered free of all charges at the Chest Godowns of Ghazipur Opium Factory; the first thousand within 15th August 1890, the second thousand within 15th October 1890, and the third thousand within 15th December 1890.

2 The planks must be sound fairly seasoned, not green, and free from dry-rot or borers. The wood must also be free from very large or bad knots and also from long or curved cracks not longer than 6 inches will be passed provided not more than one exists in a plank.

3 The wood is to be in thickness, not less than *one inch* (1″) and not more than *one and quarter inch* (1¼″) it need not be planed but is to be rough as it comes from the saw.

4 The planks are to be not less than 7′ (seven feet) and not more than 7½′ (seven feet and six inches) in length and are not to be less than 10″ (ten inches) and not more than 15″ (fifteen inches) in breadth.

5 *Out of every hundred planks delivered (twenty five) 25 at least must be full 15′ (fifteen inches) in breadth.*

6 The successful tenderer will be required to deposit with undersigned the sum of Rs. 25 (Rupees twenty five, only) for every thousand planks as security for the due fulfilment of his contract.

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8 The Benares Opium Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

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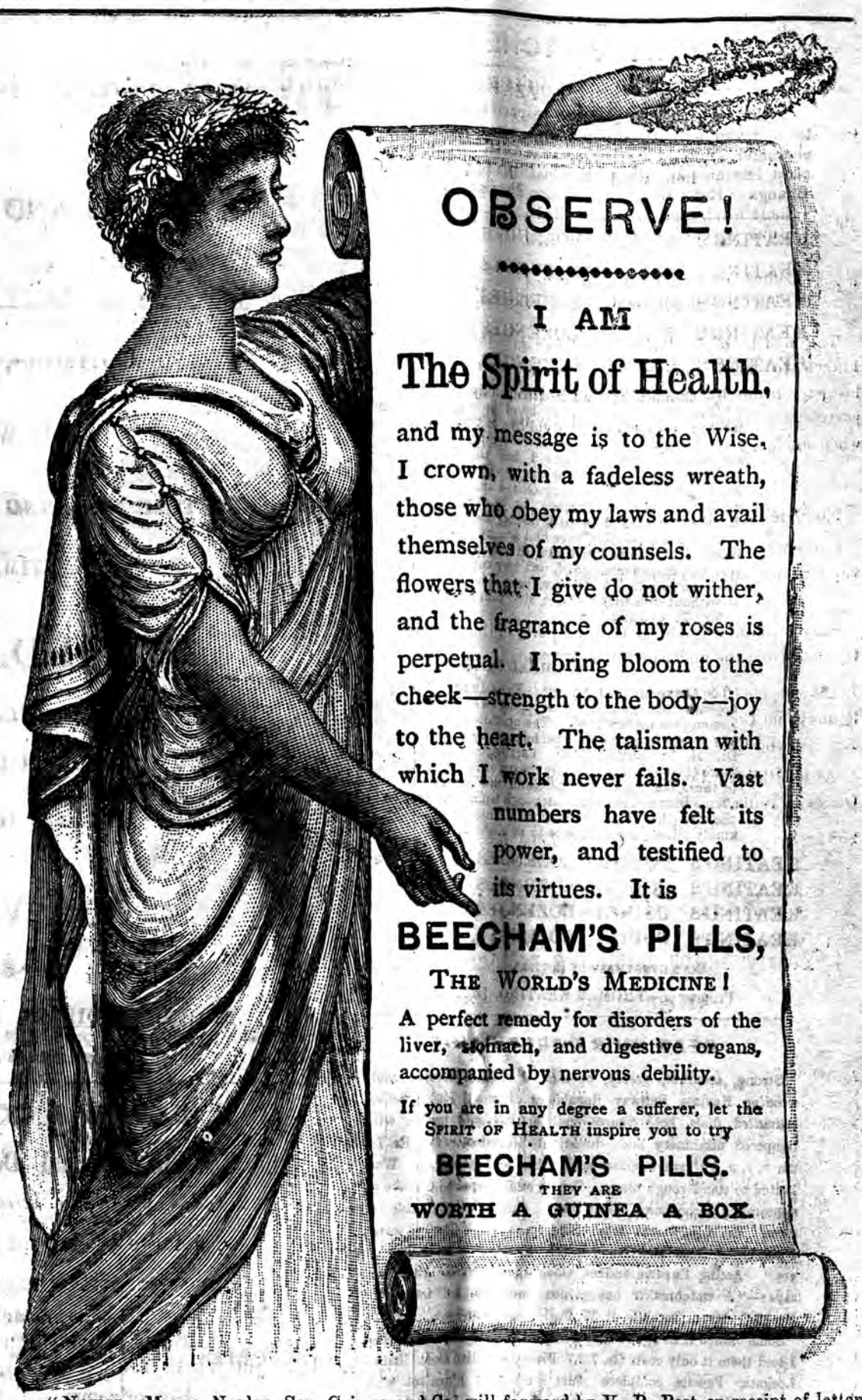
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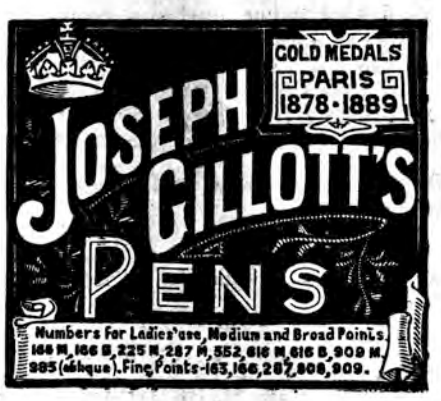
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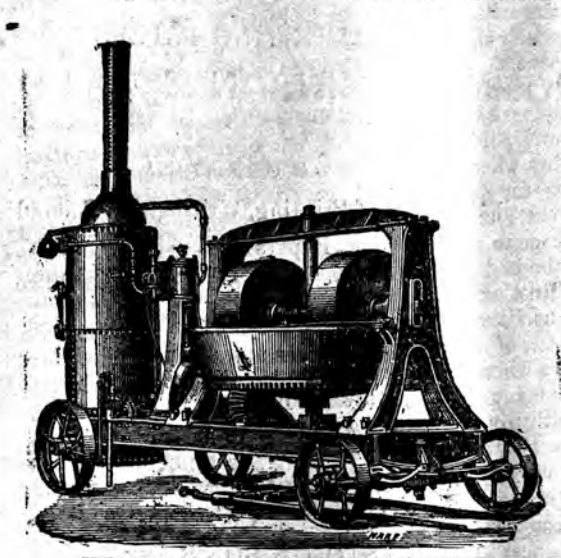

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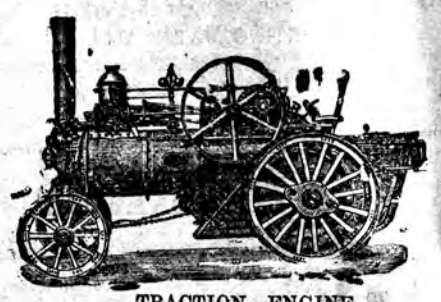

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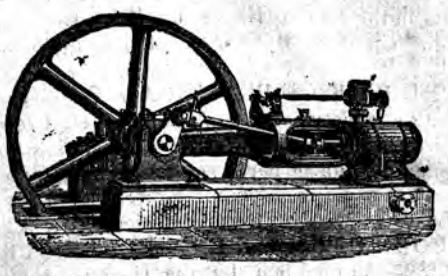
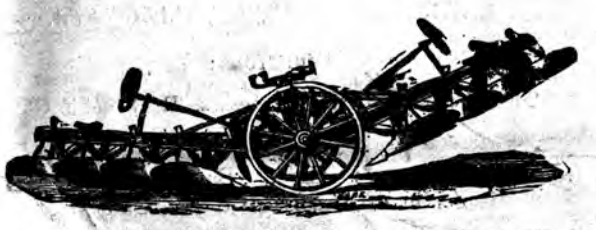


FIXED HORIZONTAL ENGINE



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